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cont

(y') a variant of a sequence of (a) through (x'), wherein the variant binds the N-helix coiled-coil cavity of HIV gp41, wherein ac- at the C-terminus and -am at the N-terminus are optional.

REMARKS

The Restriction Requirement received in the referenced application is similar to the Restriction Requirement received in parent Application No. 09/364,497, filed July 30, 1999. Thus, similar to the Restriction Requirements in the parent application, Group I contains claims directed to a trimeric peptide model of the hydrophobic pocket of HIV gp41 (Claims 1-8, 10-15, 38 and 39) and to peptides which specifically bind to the model (Claim 9) in the subject application. Claim 9 has been amended to further clarify that it is directed to a D-peptide "which binds to the pocket of an N-helix coiled-coil of HIV gp41".

In the parent application, Examiners Parkin and Housel advised Applicants' Attorneys that the model and the binding peptides constituted separate groups for restriction purposes. This was confirmed in a subsequent Office Action in the parent application. If, as indicated in the parent application, it is the intention of the Office in the subject application to further restrict Group I into two separate groups, one group containing claims directed to the trimeric peptide model of the pocket of HIV gp41 and a second group containing claims directed to binding peptides, then Applicants elect claims directed to a fusion protein comprising a soluble trimeric form and a portion of HIV gp41 (Claims 1-8, 10-15, 38 and 39) for prosecution. Applicants note that a species election was not required for these claims.

Supplemental Declaration

A Transmittal of Supplemental Declaration/Power of Attorney and Notice of Change of Correspondence Address is being filed concurrently herewith. The Supplemental Declaration is being filed to correct the residential address of the fourth named applicant, Peter A. Carr.

Second Information Disclosure Statement

A Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the IDS is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendments Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii)

9. (Twice Amended) A D-peptide which binds to the pocket of an N-helix coiled-coil of HIV gp41, wherein the peptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) CDLKAKEWFWLC (SEQ ID NO: 3);
 - (b) CEARHREAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 4);
 - (c) CELLGWEAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 5);
 - (d) CLLRAPEWGWLC (SEQ ID NO: 6);
 - (e) CSRSQPEWEWLC (SEQ ID NO: 7);
 - (f) CGLGQEEWFWLC (SEQ ID NO: 8);
 - (g) CMRGEWEWSWLC (SEQ ID NO: 9);
 - (h) CPPLNKEAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 10);
 - (i) CVLKAKEWFWLC (SEQ ID NO: 11);
 - (j) KKGACGLGQEEWFWLC (SEQ ID NO: 15);
 - (k) KKGACCELLGWEAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 16);
 - (l) KKKKGACCELLGWEAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 17);
 - (m) KKGACMRGEWEWSWLC (SEQ ID NO: 18);
 - (n) KKGACPPLNKEAWWLC (SEQ ID NO: 19);
 - (o) a D-peptide comprising WXWL (SEQ ID NO: 23);
 - (p) a D-peptide comprising EWXWL (SEQ ID NO: 24);
 - (q) a D-peptide comprising CXXXXXEWXWL (SEQ ID NO: 12)
 - (r) ac-GACEARHREAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 34);
 - (r) ac-KKGACEARHREAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 38);

- (t) ac-KKKKGACEARHREWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 43);
- (u) ac-GACGLGQEEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 44);
- (v) ac-KKGACGLGQEEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 64);
- (w) ac-KKKKGACGLGQEEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 45)
- (x) ac-GACDLKAKEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 35);
- (y) ac-KKGACDLKAKEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 39);
- (z) ac-KKKKGACDLKAKEFWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 46);
- (a') ac-GACELLGWEAWLCC-am (SEQ ID NO: 47);
- (b') ac-KKGACELLGWEAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 65);
- (c') ac-KKKKGACELLGWEAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 66);
- (d') ac-GACSRSQPEWEWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 36);
- (e') ac-KKGACSRSQPEWEWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 40);
- (f') ac-KKKKGACSRSQPEWEWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 48);
- (g') ac-GACLLRAPEWGWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 37);
- (h') ac-KKGACLLRAPEWGWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 41);
- (i') ac-KKKKGACLLRAPEWGWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 49);
- (j') ac-GACMRGEWEWSWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 50);
- (k') ac-KKGACMRGEWEWSWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 67);
- (l') ac-KKKKGACMRGEWEWSWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 51);
- (m') ac-GACPPLNKEWAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 52);
- (n') ac-KKGACPPLNKEWAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 68);
- (o') ac-KKKKGACPPLNKEWAWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 53);
- (p') ac-GACXXXXXEWXWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 54);
- (q') ac-KKGACXXXXXEWXWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 55);
- (r') ac-KKKKGACXXXXXEWXWLCAA-am (SEQ ID NO: 56);
- (s') ac-XXCXXXXXEWXWLCXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 57);

- (t') ac-KKXXCXXXXXEWXWLCXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 58);
- (u') ac-KKKKXXCXXXXXEWXWLCXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 59);
- (v') ac-XXCXXXXXEWXWLCXXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 60);
- (w') ac-KKXXCXXXXXEWXWLCXXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 61);
- (x') ac-KKKKXXCXXXXXEWXWLCXXX-am (SEQ ID NO: 62); and
- (y') a variant of a sequence of (a) through (x'), wherein the variant binds the N-helix coiled-coil cavity of HIV gp41, wherein ac- at the C-terminus and -am at the N-terminus are optional.